

COMMUNICATIONS – Case Three

by GHOST

Story by GHOST; Summary by the GHOST's Wiki

Summary

Bri Rodez, an autistic teenager with a special interest in photography, joins a forum online to share their work, and befriends a few local photographers (including one named Avery Martin, who they enter a romantic relationship with). However, they struggle with body dysmorphia and heavily edit any photo they post of themselves, and though most people don't notice or care, a small group of trolls sense metaphorical blood in the water.

Another forum member named Simon Berkeley starts targeting, harassing and cyberbullying Bri, which ultimately culminates in him doxing them, leaking unedited photos of them, and causing them to spiral into a deep depression. After holing up in their room for weeks and almost starving to death, Bri is hospitalized and Avery goes on the search for Simon with the intent of reporting him to law enforcement. However, when she finds him, it's atop a very, very tall building, and Simon came prepared-- he's armed with a gun. In such close quarters, tensions end up increasing enough that Simon shoots and lethally wounds Avery, who, in her last moments, tackles him over the edge of the building in a fatal bear hug of mutually assured destruction.

Revised

Simon had somewhat of an eavesdropper who eventually became friends with him, interested in the potential he showed as the perfect villain for a new story (not like this was ever vocalized of course, they knew people would think they were weird for their motives). When Simon started harassing Bri and Avery, the couple showed an astonishing ability to fight back, unaffected by Simon's harassment.

After doxing Bri, Bri's family just moved to a different house. Bri continued to stay strong. This angered Simon, and he and his friends began to devise a plan to "shake those two up a little". They'd meet up in an abandoned building, Simon would be alone in a room deep within the building, and on the couple's way there, his friends would play some "pranks" with risks. Then, at the end, Simon himself would provide the biggest scare, whatever that would be. IDK I haven't decided yet. TL;DR, there was a good 50/50 chance they would either die or make it out traumatized.

Simon's friend group were frightened by Simon's willingness to go so far to continue what started as cyberbullying (they definitely started backing away from him when he pulled the doxx), and decided to secretly leak Simon's plan to Bri and Avery. On the side, Simon's friends and the couple devised a counter-plan to show Simon that they weren't putting up with his bullshit. Nobody would be hurt in the process. They would save the receipts of Simon's bullshit online, including the plan, record the plan's initiation, and report him to the police afterwards.

The group met up, everyone took their places and waited for the couple to show up. Simon's friends and the couple just made some fake commotion to feign Simon's plan working. Once the couple got to Simon's hideout, however, he was on the floor, having been stabbed to death. Everyone regrouped, and they noticed one of Simon's friends was missing. The one who stayed the most quiet, the one no one had met up with IRL, the one who never shared their real name or address. The villain was dead, the heroes won, they had no need for this story anymore. Away from the commotion, for the third time now, they committed suicide in a nearby forest and moved onto the next story.